

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A rubber-based composite material comprising
a non-woven fabric;

5 a coating of a metal or metallic compound reactable with sulfur, the coating
being formed on a surface of filaments constituting the non-woven fabric by a physical
vapor deposition (PVD) method or a chemical vapor deposition (CVD) method; and
a rubber that adheres to the coating and that covers the non-woven fabric.

10 2. The rubber-based composite material according to claim 1, wherein the
metal or metallic compound reactable with sulfur is cobalt or an oxide of cobalt.

3. The rubber-based composite material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein a
sputtering method is used as the physical vapor deposition (PVD) method.

4. The rubber-based composite material according to claim 3, wherein the
sputtering method is a magnetron sputtering method.

15 5. A rubber article wherein the rubber-based composite material according to
claim 1 is used as a reinforcing material.

6. A tire wherein a rubber-based composite material according to claim 1 is
used as a reinforcing material.